



The Second General Assembly of the International Parliamentarians'  
Association for Information Technology -IPAIT II  
17-19 May 2004, Conrad Bangkok Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

## **The Bangkok Declaration on IPAIT Collaborative Projects**

---

Realizing the significance of ICT in the development of the various aspects of society in the era of globalization;

Recognizing the need to adopt e-Parliament, e-Government, e-Education and e-Society, e-Commerce and e-Industry for the development of society;

Mindful of the need to strengthen collaboration among IPAIT members in the development of ICT infrastructure and for the improvement and the broadening of the ICT laws and ICT policies.

We, IPAIT members, have gathered here in Bangkok for the Second General Assembly of the International Parliamentarians' Association for Information Technology (IPAIT) to combine our diverse strengths to meet the challenges of the ICT development for our IPAIT members. In line with the theme of this Second Assembly, "*Enhancing Digital Opportunities for Parliamentarians and Citizens Through e-Parliament and Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT-D)*", the discussions have covered a wide range of issues leading to fruitful results and conclusions, especially on the collaboration stated above. Active participation from delegates at the Second General Assembly of IPAIT promised a strong partnership among members, which will definitely emerge and ultimately benefit the peoples of the

members of IPAIT. Collaborative projects that have been unanimously proposed in the Assembly are as follows:

### **1. Development of Regional and International Machine Translation Tools**

The aim is to develop machine translation tools to facilitate lingual conversion in order to bridge language barriers among IPAIT members at the regional and the global level. The machine translation tools will support the important goal of familiarizing the various countries with one another's cultures and traditions. The tools, which facilitate translation from the official language of the host country to IPAIT official languages (Article 17), will contribute positively to the work of the parliaments of the respective members.

### **2. Establishment of Joint Efforts for the Reasonable Pricing of Software Products, and the Promotion of Open Source Software (OSS)**

One of our objectives is to organize joint efforts by the governments to establish a strong rationale for the reasonable pricing of software products based on the idea of benefits to both software publishers and consumers. In this regard, the collective promotion of Open Source Software (OSS) is to be used as a mean to achieve the objective above.

### **3. Development of ICT Knowledge Portals.**

To develop an "ICT Knowledge Portal" in IPAIT official languages to exchange experiences and knowledge, especially in order to facilitate the passing of ICT laws. The Portal also includes sharing of information on the organizational structures and membership in national parliaments and the roles of parliamentary committees in considering and enacting new laws. At the same time, a joint effort is needed to support the formation of an Internet Gateway, and enhance IPAIT e-

learning resources without any access fees. In addition, the IPAIT members agreed to develop collaborative programs to develop e-Learning systems, leading to courseware resources sharing, and the establishment of Cyber Universities.

#### **4. Promotion of an IPAIT Human Resource Development Program.**

The objective of this programme is to promote bilateral and multilateral co-operation among the IPAIT members and to also develop a common e-Learning platform for the education of personnel involved in forging ahead the various e-initiatives, including the development of e-Parliament. In addition, it is as equally important to initiate an ICT professional development program in order to facilitate the exchange and sharing of knowledge and experiences among the members. It could be done specifically through training, consulting, and visiting programmes, all of which will help develop human resources in the IPAIT member countries.

*Done at Bangkok in duplicate in English language on the nineteenth of May in two thousand and four*